

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2734

To amend section 1781 of title 38, United States Code, to provide medical care to family members of disabled veterans who serve as caregivers to such veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 4, 2009

Mr. PERRIELLO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend section 1781 of title 38, United States Code, to provide medical care to family members of disabled veterans who serve as caregivers to such veterans.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Health Care for Fam-
5 ily Caregivers Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL CARE FOR FAMILY MEMBERS OF DIS-**
2 **ABLED VETERANS WHO SERVE AS CARE-**
3 **GIVERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1781 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
8 the end;

9 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and”
10 at the end; and

11 (C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
12 following new paragraph:

13 “(4) a family caregiver as described in sub-
14 section (e)(2),”;

15 (2) in the third sentence of subsection (b), by
16 striking “dependent or survivor” and inserting “de-
17 pendent, survivor, or family caregiver”; and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
19 section:

20 “(e)(1) A family caregiver shall not be subject to
21 deductibles, premiums, co-payments, cost sharing, or other
22 fees for medical care provided to such caregiver under this
23 section.

24 “(2) A family caregiver described in this paragraph
25 is an individual who—

1 “(A) with respect to a veteran, meets the defini-
2 tion of the term ‘family caregiver’ under section
3 1701(11);

4 “(B) is the primary family caregiver for such
5 veteran and such veteran receives compensation
6 under subsections (r) or (s) of section 1114; and

7 “(C) has no entitlement to care or services
8 under a health-plan contract as defined under sec-
9 tion 1725(f)(2) (determined, in the case of a health-
10 plan contract as defined in subsection (f)(2)(B) or
11 (f)(2)(C) of such section, without regard to any re-
12 quirement or limitation relating to eligibility for care
13 or services from any department or agency of the
14 United States).”.

15 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1701 of title 38, United
16 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
17 lowing new paragraphs:

18 “(10) The term ‘caregiver services’ means non-
19 institutional extended care (as used in section
20 1701(6) of this title), including homemaker and
21 home health aid services.

22 “(11) The term ‘family caregiver’ means an in-
23 dividual who—

24 “(A) is a member of the family (including
25 parents, spouses, children, siblings, step-family

1 members, and extended family members) of a
2 disabled veteran;

3 “(B) provides caregiver services to such
4 veteran for such disability; and

5 “(C) may or may not reside with such vet-
6 eran.”.

